

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Julian called the regular meeting of the Kasson Township Board to order at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Greg Julian – Supervisor, Dana Boomer - Clerk, Julia Carter - Treasurer, Tad Carter – Trustee, Roger Noonan – Trustee
Member(s) Absent: None
Staff Present: Tim Cypher

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA – The board briefly discussed the agenda. **Noonan moved to approve the agenda as presented. Boomer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES – The board discussed the minutes from the regular meeting on September 13, 2022. **T. Carter moved, J. Carter seconded to approve the September 13, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

PERTINENT COMMUNICATIONS: None

PRESENTATION: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a) **TREASURER'S REPORT:** J. Carter had previously submitted the treasurer's report to the board. Receipts total \$717,311.48. Disbursements \$837,741.25. Balance \$635,971.69. T. Carter asked J. Carter to check into interest rates on CDs to see if rates have improved and if the township wants to transfer additional money into CDs. J. Carter will report back at the November meeting.
- b) **BUDGET REPORT:** Boomer presented the budget report through September. The board briefly discussed. Boomer reminded the board that there are professional development funds built in to several cost centers of the budget, and none of these funds have been expended yet. She requested that the Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Review, and Assessor consider whether there are classes they would like to take before the end of the fiscal year. The board briefly discussed and encouraged any staff members who are interested to look into classes, especially those through the Michigan Townships Association or Michigan State University.
- c) **BILL APPROVAL** – Boomer presented the updated check detail. The board briefly discussed. **Noonan moved to pay the bills as presented; seconded by T. Carter. All in favor, motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Cemeteries** – Projects regarding the cemeteries are ongoing. Boomer did a walk through of the Kasson Cemetery with James Schettek, and the stumps will be removed this fall. Schettek will be notifying Boomer when they have a set day to do the work, as this is one of the least well-documented areas of the cemetery. The board discussed the record keeping and maintenance

of the cemeteries. T. Carter asked if ground penetrating radar should be used to locate any unmarked graves present at the two cemeteries. Boomer thinks this would be a good idea after the ongoing projects are completed.

Boomer worked with Tim Figura regarding the East Kasson Cemetery and the Herrmann matter. Figura feels that because of the disparate evidence, the board could, if they wanted to, move ahead with granting the three additional plots to the Herrmanns. Figura developed a draft affidavit that could be signed by the Herrmanns, and he could draft a resolution for the board to pass. Noonan stated that based on his conversations with the Brights, he doesn't feel that the Herrmanns should be granted the three additional plots, as the Brights stated that they never sold four plots for \$100. Boomer, T. Carter, and Julian had consensus for Figura to draft the resolution and the board can continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Noonan has been working to get ahold of Ms. Rosinski about putting up her side of the fence. This needs to be done before snowfall. The board discussed the township's side of the cemetery fence and finding a fence contractor to put that up. The board will be contacting contractors who don't specialize in fencing about possibly putting up the fence if the township buys the materials.

- b. Mining/Gravel Legislation** – The legislature has not yet returned to active sessions, and will likely not be taking action until at least November.
- c. Sidewalk Ordinance** – No discussion - tabled
- d. Township Master Plan** – There was no September PC meeting, so no further revisions have been made to the Master Plan. This Township Board will table this item until November.
- e. Snow Removal** – The board continued the discussion begun at the October, and whether to go out for bids on snow removal. T. Carter believes the issue should be sent out for bids. Boomer believes that the quote from Lanham Construction is reasonable and the board needs to hire a snowplow company soon because it could snow at any time. **Noonan moved to accept the Lanham Construction snow plow bid for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 winters. Boomer seconded. Ayes: Julian, Boomer, J. Carter, Noonan. Nays: T. Carter. Motion passed.**
- f. Other Unfinished Business** - None

NEW BUSINESS –

- a. November Meeting Date** – The November board meeting is currently scheduled for the same day as the election – Boomer requested this be moved. The board briefly discussed. **Boomer moved to change the November meeting date to Wednesday, November 9 at 7 pm. J. Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.**
- b. Other New Business** - None

CAPITAL PROJECTS – EXPLORATION

- a. **Maple City Improvement Project** – Julian has been in contact with Gosling Czubak and they are moving forward with their project. Julian and T. Carter will be meeting with Gosling Czubak before the November meeting.
- b. **Township Hall Renovation** – Tabled for further discussion when Mr. Flaska is available.
- c. **Fire Department Capital Improvements** – Julian updated the board with regard to the property at Myles Kimmerly Park. The County Parks & Rec Commission did not support the proposal of selling some property to Kasson and Cleveland for the purpose of building a fire station, but passed the inquiry on to the County Commission at their September meeting. It was on the executive committee agenda for the County Commission, and there did not appear to be support, so the townships requested that the item be pulled from the full County Commission agenda. This item will be tabled until after the November election. The County Commission will also likely be discussing whether to put the park land into perpetuity, which would not allow the property to be used for anything other than park uses. Between now and the January County Commission meeting, the Kasson and Cleveland Boards and the Fire Chief will likely be meeting to further discuss the issue and how to move forward.

The board briefly discussed moving forward on this issue. Julian is continuing to be in contact with realtors about other potential properties that would allow for the construction of a station to better serve the western side of the service area. The board discussed response times and the need for a new station – response times from both the Cedar and Glen Arbor stations are 10+ minutes to a large segment of western Kasson and Cleveland Townships, including Glen Lake School.

REPORTS: Planning Commission (PC) – There was no PC meeting in September. Roush and Schaeffer have terms that are up the end of November. Roush has expressed an interest in sitting again, Schaeffer has only expressed an interest in sitting until the Master Plan is complete. Julian will reach out to both members before the November meeting. Cypher stated, for board consideration, that there is a provision in the Zoning Enabling Act that allows for the appointment of an alternate PC member who is not a resident of the township.

Zoning Administrator (ZA) – Cypher had previously submitted written reports to the board, and summarized those at the meeting. Cypher summarized enforcement actions and complaints in the township. Upcoming for the PC agenda are an application from Elmers for the tunnel and road project, a Reith Riley project in November, and reviewing county comments on the two zoning ordinance amendments. Cypher will be out of town for the next board meeting and virtual for the PC meeting.

Supervisor – Julian summarized his activities for the month.

Assessor – Assessing business has been moving forward as usual.

Fire Board – Julian reported that the Fire Board authorized the purchase of a new command/chief's vehicle, an SUV that will be better suited to a command vehicle. The current command truck will be kept as a general purpose vehicle for the department. The board discussed the ongoing projects of the fire board, including the transition to full advanced life support services and the hiring of three new full-time personnel, both expected to be completed in April 2023. Boomer stated that once that transition has been completed, there will be no further room for expansion of department staff or services within the Cedar station in its current footprint. Noonan reiterated his unwillingness to

approve capital funds being put into upgrades or expansion of the existing Cedar station due to the township having no ownership stake in the building – Carter and Boomer agreed. The board has also begun a discussion of gathering specifications and pricing for a new ambulance, as dealers are currently projecting a 36-month lead time on new ambulances from time of order. The board generally discussed the replacement schedule for the department vehicles.

Clerk/Elections Report – Prep for the November election is ongoing. Approximately 350 absentee ballots have been sent out so far. There is a meeting to appoint election inspectors after the regular meeting this evening.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Hall Use and Buildings and Grounds Reports –There are no issues with building and grounds. There is a church music group meeting the first Sunday of the month from 4-6 pm. The board briefly discussed hall maintenance issues. The Davis Lake Association used the hall for their annual meeting. The board requested that Lanham Construction power-wash the siding and clean the moss off the shingles at the hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Don Drabik – He finished the East Kasson Cemetery sign. The board thanked him for his work.

BOARD COMMENT: T. Carter has an issue with Elmers project on Baatz Road. It makes no sense why they can't move the crusher to the north cell after depleting the south cell. He does not want to see gravel trucks crossing Baatz Road between the two cells.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 7 pm.

Motion by T. Carter to adjourn, second by J. Carter / **All in favor, motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Submitted by:
Dana Boomer, Township Clerk